

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
/028 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:ALEGGIO:LLC
APPROVED BY NEA/AFN:JKBISHOP
HA:EJONES
-----004487 271625Z /50
R 270114Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: DHUM TS

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL LETTER REGARDING ALLEGATIONS OF GOT
HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST AICHA BEN ABED

REF: JONES/CLEAR LETTER DATED 5/8/78

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CABLE REPORT ON THIS CASE AS
SOON AS INFO AVAILABLE. FRASER HAS BEEN INFORMED BY DEPT.
THAT REPLY TO HIS INQUIRY AWAITING EMBASSY'S INVESTIGATION.
FRASER'S LETTER FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

I HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED INFORMATION CONCERNING AICHA BEN
ABED, A CITIZEN OF TUNISIA. MRS. ABED WAS REPORTEDLY
ARRESTED, AND SUBJECTED TO TORTURE DURING INTERROGATION.
ALTHOUGH SHE IS NOT PRESENTLY IN DETENTION, SHE PREVIOUSLY
SERVED A PRISON TERM FOR POLITICAL REASONS, AND IT APPEARS
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THAT THE HARASSMENT CONTINUES. HER HUSBAND, NOUREDDINE BEN
KHADER, IS SERVING A 16 1/2 YEAR SENTENCE FOR "CRIMES"
OF OPINION, AND MRS. ABED HAS BEEN PREVENTED FROM VISITING
HIM. ALSO, HER PASSPORT HAS BEEN INDEFINITELY REVOKED.

I FIND THE INCIDENTS RECOUNTED ABOVE TO BE PARTICULARLY
DISTURBING, AS THEY ARE IN VIOLATION OF RIGHTS GUARANTEED

BY THE TUNISIAN CONSTITUTION. ANY INFORMATION YOU COULD PROVIDE ME WITH ON MRS. ABED'S SITUATION WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. IN ADDITION, I WOULD URGE THAT AN EXPRESSION OF CONCERN BE MADE TO THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT ON MRS. ABED'S BEHALF, URGING THAT HER CONSTITUTIONALLY-GUARANTEED RIGHTS BE RESTORED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER. SINCERELY YOURS, DONALD M. FRASER, CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. UNQUOTE.

2. FYI: NEA/AFN HAS LEARNED THAT FRASER SENT SIMILAR LETTER TO TUNISIAN EMBASSY WHICH HAS FORWARDED IT TO FOREIGN OFFICE.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, LEGISLATIVE MAIL, VIOLATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE135672
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ALEGGIO:LLC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780224-1299
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780511/aaaaairu.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c06b3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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